

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NASSAU 01814 242307Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 L-03 EB-07

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P 242130Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7432

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, BF

SUBJECT: PLP FUND RAISING: MOHAMMAD ALI'S EXHIBITION MATCH

REF: NASSAU 1791

1. LESLIE FOX, SECRETARY GENERAL, PEOPLES DEMOCRATIC PARTY, TELEPHONED EMBASSY THIS AFTERNOON TO REQUEST APPOINTMENT WITH AMBASSADOR TO LODGE AN OFFICIAL COMPLAINT WITH THE US EMBASSY AND THROUGH IT THE USG IN CONNECTION WITH MOHAMMAD ALI'S FUND RAISING EXHIBITION ON BEHALF OF PLP SCHEDULED FOR MON OCT 27. EMBASSY HAS AGREED TO MEET WITH FOX AND PDP LEADERS BILLY BUTLER AND F.A. DEAN ON TUESDAY OCT 28, AT 11 AM.

2. FOX WAS INFORMED BY EMBASSY OFFICIAL THAT MOHAMMAD ALI'S VISIT TO THE BAHAMAS AND FUND RAISING APPEARANCE ON BEHALF OF PLP WERE A PURELY PERSONAL DECISION ON HIS PART AND THAT THERE WAS NOTHING TO PREVENT HIS ACTIVITIES IN EITHER US LAWS OR STATUTORY REGULATIONS. FOX RESPONDED BY SAYING THAT HE DOUBTED THAT A BAHAMIAN CITIZEN WOULD BE ALLOWED BY US, STATE, OR FEDERAL AUTHORITIES TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY ON BEHALF OF US POLITICAL PARTIES. HE WAS TOLD THAT EMBASSY UNAWARE OF ANY LEGAL RESTRICTIONS WHICH WOULD PREVENT FOREIGN PERFORMING ARTISTS FROM TAKING PART IN US POLITICAL ACTIVITY FOR FUND RAISING.

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PAGE 02 NASSAU 01814 242307Z

3. DEPARTMENT REQUESTED TO CONFIRM EMBASSY'S RESPONSE TO FNM LEADER SOLOMON IN PARA 2.B OF REFTEL AND RESPONSE GIVEN TO FOX PRIOR TO TUESDAY MORNING'S MEETING.

4. PLP HAS GREATLY EXPANDED ALI'S VISIT AND IS MILKING IT FOR LAST DROP. HE WILL BE MET AT AIRPORT ON SATURDAY BY THE PRIME MINISTER, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, AND PLP CHAIRMAN AND OTHER PARTY OFFICIALS. A MOTORCADE WILL DRIVE HIM FROM AIRPORT TO PARADISE ISLAND AND ON SATURDAY EVENING HE WILL BE THE GUEST OF HONOR AT A PRIVATE DINNER. IN ADDITION AND TO CONCLUDE DAY'S ACTIVITIES, GOVERNOR GENERAL AND LADY BUTLER WILL BE HOSTS AT A RECEPTION FOR HIM AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE. ON SUNDAY, HE WILL BROADCAST AN HOUR LONG RADIO PROGRAM FROM HIS SUITE AT THE PARADISE BEACH HOTEL AND WILL BE GUEST OF HONOR AT A LUNCH GIVEN BY THE PLP WOMANS BRANCH. THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A PRIVATE TOUR OF THE ISLAND LED BY THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND A COCKTAIL PARTY GIVEN BY THE PLP CHAIRMAN. ON MONDAY, ALI WILL BE TAKEN ON A TOUR OF TWO HIGH SCHOOLS AND WILL PLANT A TREE AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF A NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL (AT THIS CEREMONY THE PRIME MINISTER, WHO HAS NOT HITHERTO BEEN KNOWN FOR HIS LITERARY CRAFTSMANSHIP, WILL READ A SPECIAL POEM WHICH HE HAS WRITTEN FOR THE EVENT) THESE ACTIVITIES WILL BE A FOLKLORE SHOW UNDER THE AUSPICES OF PLP FOLLOWED BY ANOTHER LUNCHEON GIVEN BY THE PLP MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, EDWARD MOXEY, AND A PRESENTATION AWARD CEREMONY PRESIDED OVER BY THE PRIME MINISTER. A BOXING EXHIBITION THAT NIGHT WILL CULMINATE THE VISIT.

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